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*For Country*  
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WAR DEPARTMENT  
Bureau of Public Relations  
PRESS BRANCH  
Tel. - RE 6700  
Brs. 3425 and 3770

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*(one sent to J. H. Cook)*  
*c.s.*

February 3, 1943

I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E

PRESIDENT APPROVES COMBAT TEAM  
OF CITIZENS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

Following is the text of a letter received by the Honorable Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, from the President:

"February 1, 1943

"My dear Mr. Secretary:

"The proposal of the War Department to organize a combat team consisting of loyal American citizens of Japanese descent has my full approval. The new combat team will add to the nearly five thousand loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry who are already serving in the armed forces of our country.

"This is a natural and logical step toward the reinstitution of the Selective Service procedures which were temporarily disrupted by the evacuation from the West Coast.

"No loyal citizen of the United States should be denied the democratic right to exercise the responsibilities of his citizenship, regardless of his ancestry. The principle on which this country was founded and by which it has always been governed is that Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart; Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry. A good American is one who is loyal to this country and to our creed of liberty and democracy. Every loyal American citizen should be given the opportunity to serve this country wherever his skills will make the greatest contribution -- whether it be in the ranks of our armed forces, war production, agriculture, government service, or other work essential to the war effort.

"I am glad to observe that the War Department, the Navy Department, the War Manpower Commission, the Department of Justice, and the War Relocation Authority are collaborating in a program which will assure the opportunity for all loyal Americans, including Americans of Japanese ancestry, to serve their country at a time when the fullest and wisest use of our manpower is all-important to the war effort.

"Very sincerely yours,

"S/ FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT"

Further details concerning the establishment of the Army combat team composed of American citizens of Japanese ancestry were announced by the War Department.

MORE

*B*

*Handwritten signature/initials*



All American citizens of Japanese ancestry whose loyalty has been satisfactorily established, who are 18 years of age and not over 37, who meet physical requirements for general military service, and who speak English, are eligible for the combat team. Representatives of the War Department will shortly arrive at each relocation center to explain the program in detail and to receive applications for voluntary induction from individuals residing there.

American citizens of Japanese ancestry who are not residents of War Relocation Centers should make application for voluntary induction through their local Selective Service boards.

The combat team, to which qualified volunteers will be assigned, will have the customary infantry, artillery, engineer, and medical components, and will be trained for combat service in an active theatre. Company officers will be of Japanese ancestry, to the extent that men with the requisite military experience can be found. From time to time their number will be augmented by graduates from officer candidate schools. Opportunity for attendance at service schools and for promotion to higher grades will be open to all enlisted and commissioned personnel on the same basis as for the rest of the Army.

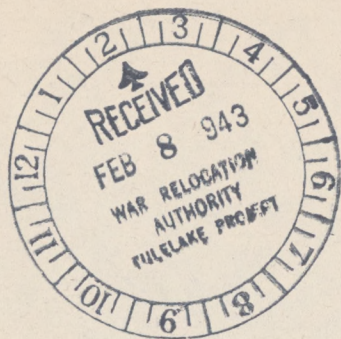
If found qualified, the individual may expect to be inducted from 30 to 60 days after volunteering. Those rejected for physical reasons will be given assistance in getting jobs in war plants.

END

- 2 -

DISTRIBUTION: Aa, Af, B, Da, Dm, Ma, N, P.







L  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington

FOR RELEASE TO AFTERNOON PAPERS OF JANUARY 27, 1944

DUNCAN MILLS ~~MEMO~~  
ACTING DIRECTOR AT POSTON

Appointment of Duncan Mills as acting project director of the Colorado River Relocation Center, at Poston, Arizona, succeeding W. Wade Head, was announced at Poston today by Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority. Mr. Myer visited Poston to present the new project director to the staff and to the evacuee residents of the center.

Mr. Mills has served in various executive capacities in the War Relocation Authority since shortly after creation of the agency in March, 1942, having been administrative officer at the regional office of WRA in San Francisco, later serving as supply officer in the national office in Washington and, since last August he has been personnel officer.

He is a native of Daytona Beach, Florida, and is married. After attending elementary and high school at Daytona Beach, he studied at Georgia Tech and the University of Pennsylvania, and is a certified public accountant. He practiced accountancy for several years, and worked for several railroads; he entered the Federal Service in 1931 with the Interstate Commerce Commission. He next served with The Resettlement Administration, following which he was with the Soil Conservation Service at Albuquerque, N. M., for five years. He was on the staff of the Federal Public Housing Authority at San Francisco immediately before he joined WRA.

Mr. Head, who has been director of the relocation center since its establishment early in 1942, returns to his former duties with the Indian Service.



January 28, 1943

IMMEDIATE

RELEASE

LOYAL AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY  
TO COMPOSE SPECIAL UNIT IN ARMY

The War Department announced today that plans have been completed for the admission of a substantial number of American citizens of Japanese ancestry to the Army of the United States.

This action was taken following study by the War Department of many earnest requests by loyal American citizens of Japanese extraction for the organization of a special unit of the Army in which they could have their share in the fight against the Nation's enemies.

The Following statement was issued by the Honorable Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War:

"It is the inherent right of every faithful citizen, regardless of ancestry, to bear arms in the Nation's battle. When obstacles to the free expression of that right are imposed by emergency considerations, those barriers should be removed as soon as humanly possible. Loyalty to country is a voice that must be heard, and I am glad that I am now able to give active proof that this basic American belief is not a casualty of war."

The War Department announced that the initial procedure in the formation of the unit authorized by the Secretary will be voluntary induction. Facilities for this will be nation-wide, including the Hawaiian Islands and the War Relocation Centers in this country. No individual will be inducted if doubt exists as to his loyalty.

Upon induction the "nisei," as American-born citizens of Japanese parentage are termed, will begin training as a combat team for service in an active theater. This combat team will include the customary elements of infantry, artillery, engineer, and medical personnel. No effort will be spared in developing it into an efficient well-rounded, hard-hitting unit.

OM-2409



The new unit will be trained separately from the battalion of Americans of Japanese extraction -- originally a Hawaiian National Guard organization -- which is already a component of the Army.

The War Department's action, it was announced, is part of a larger program which will enable all loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry to make their proper contribution toward winning the war -- through employment in war production as well as military service.

END



FUTURE RELEASE  
P L E A S E   N O T E   D A T E

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
Bureau of Public Relations

FUTURE

RELEASE

FOR RELEASE MONDAY A.M., MAY 1, 1944

JAPANESE-AMERICANS IN ITALY "DEADLY BUNCH," OFFICER REPORTS

Reports on the fighting spirit of the 100th Infantry Battalion, composed of American soldiers of Japanese descent on the Italian front, were brought back to this country recently by Captain Issac A. Kawasaki, Medical Corps, who was surgeon for the battalion until a leg wound necessitated his evacuation.

"The Japanese-Americans now fighting in Italy are a deadly bunch," he asserted. "Most of them were born in Hawaii and have never seen Japan. Many lost members of their families in the Pearl Harbor attack and their feelings toward Japan are the same as the feelings of any other Americans. Besides being loyal American citizens, they fully realize the suspicion with which all Japanese in this country are regarded since the Pearl Harbor attack. They are out to fight for their country, which is America, and to prove themselves to their fellow citizens. They are doing it.

"The Japanese-American outfit in Italy is highly respected by other American troops. This bunch wanted to fight the Japs and was keenly disappointed when they learned that they would not be sent into the Pacific theater."

Illustrating the determination with which the members of his old unit fight, Captain Kawasaki told of one soldier who ran away from a base hospital after four days' treatment for wounds. He rejoined his comrades at the front and shortly afterward was severely wounded in the abdomen by shell fragments. He walked and crawled three miles to a first aid station.

Captain Kawasaki was born in Honolulu, of Japanese parents, and was educated in the United States. He received his medical education at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.

When Pearl Harbor was attacked, Captain Kawasaki was serving in the Army as a surgeon at Tripler General Hospital, Honolulu. In June, 1942, he was ordered to take command of the training of a medical unit of Japanese-Americans and was sent to Africa with this unit at the time of the Sicilian campaign.

Captain Kawasaki was wounded when he was caring for casualties at an observation post on the front lines. Wearing a brace on his injured leg, he now has been assigned to limited service at Kennedy General Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee.

OM-1080



F U T U R E R E L E A S E

War Department  
Bureau of Public Relations

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY P.M., JUNE 7, 1944

SERGEANT PRAISES JAPANESE-AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN ITALY

Japanese-American Infantryman from the Hawaiian Islands proved that they rank with America's best fighting men, declared Sergeant Clarence E. Jones of Sioux City, Iowa, twice wounded 34th Infantry Division doughboy who has just returned to the United States under the Army's rotation program after two years overseas.

"I first saw the Japanese-Americans in action at Venafro on November 14, 1943," said Sergeant Jones. "My outfit crossed the river at night in support of a Japanese-American battalion. At a cross-roads, we ran into heavy enemy machine-gun fire.

"A platoon of Japanese-American Infantry from Hawaii wiped out the Jerry machinegun nests so we could go on through. Those boys were cool, courageous fighters, and they earned our respect."

War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.





FUTURERELEASE

War Department  
Bureau of Public Relations

FOR RELEASE MONDAY A. M., JULY 17, 1944

TWO MEMBERS OF 100TH INFANTRY IN ITALY  
CARRY ON DARING DAYLIGHT RAID

A daring mission, which resulted in information on the disposition of enemy units through the capture of two Germans, was carried out in daylight behind German lines at Anzio by an officer and an enlisted man of the 100th Infantry Battalion, many of whose personnel are Japanese-Americans, the War Department disclosed today.

The two men are First Lieutenant Young Oak Kim, 914 Boston Street, Los Angeles, California, and Private First Class Irving M. Akahosi, 822 Eighth Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Lieutenant Kim, as intelligence officer of the Infantry battalion, was aware that higher headquarters vitally needed information of enemy identifications and dispositions. Moreover, he knew that previous patrols of combat strength had been unable to take prisoners, so well defended by the Nazis was that sector of the 34th Infantry Division front.

Believing that the other patrols had failed because they worked under cover of darkness at a time when the enemy manned all positions and was alert to raids and patrols and that a patrol of more than two men would work against chances for the mission's success, Kim and his volunteer, Akahosi, crawled into enemy territory before dawn on the morning of May 16. Their plan was to take prisoners.

"The lieutenant and I crawled for some distance," Akahosi said, "and when we had crawled through a gap in the enemy wire and heard a number of Germans talking, singing, and digging, we stopped to rest.

"The lieutenant said, 'We'll rest and start at daylight again, because we'll be able to see where we're going. We won't make any unnecessary noise brushing against foliage and we'll have an even chance of detecting mines.'

"At 6 A.M. we again started crawling, this time through thick briar which we had to cut to make progress. This was slow and tedious work. It took us three hours to go 300 yards. Lieutenant Kim called a halt, started looking around, and picked out two German machinegun nests, which were firing into our lines.

"He was also able to see a place called 'Twin Trees' from which he planned to grab off prisoners. We decided to crawl through a wheat field and approach the 'Twin Trees' from the rear instead of going through the briar.

"We started to crawl through the wheat field, and after going about 250 yards we came to a draw where he heard men talking in German and heard a metallic sound as if a weapon were being cleaned.

"The lieutenant signaled me to get ready to jump into the ditch. Then he started to make some motion I couldn't understand. A few seconds later I saw he had two Germans--'persuading' them with his Tommy gun to comply with his hand signals.

OM-1276



"While I covered the prisoners the lieutenant disarmed them, and we started our trip back to our lines."

As Lieutenant Kim was disarming the prisoners, the voices and laughter of Germans in an enemy strong point near by could be heard.

The lieutenant explained that his "sign language" to the Germans consisted of thrusting the muzzle of his Tommy gun under the nose of one of the Nazis and making it clear that he would shoot if either German made an outcry.

Two enemy listening posts were by-passed on the trip back to friendly lines, and the prisoners were forced to proceed with the same caution against detection that Lieutenant Kim and Akahosi employed.

"The success of the patrol," said Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Singles, Infantry, commanding officer of the battalion, "provided vital information and identification of enemy units in a critical sector of our front where previously German dispositions had been unknown."

The Germans captured and disarmed by Kim were armed with rifles and machine pistols and were on duty as security for the Nazi outpost when the lieutenant and Akahosi surprised them.

OM-1276



WAR DEPARTMENT  
Bureau of Public Relations  
PRESS BRANCH  
Tel. - RE 6700  
Brs. 3425 and 4860

August 10, 1944

I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E

TEXT OF CITATION GIVEN  
TO 100th INFANTRY BATTALION

Following is the complete text of the Presidential citation awarded to the 100th Infantry Battalion for fighting in Italy. Award of the citation to the unit, which is composed largely of American soldiers of Japanese descent, was announced recently by Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the Fifth Army, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction.

"The 100th Infantry Battalion (Separate) is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action, on June 26 and 27, 1944, in the vicinity of Belvedere and Sassetta, Italy. The 100th Infantry Battalion was assigned the mission of neutralizing a strongly defended German center of resistance at Belvedere, Italy, which dominated a vital highway and seriously impeded an American infantry division's northward advance. With insufficient time for a proper physical reconnaissance, but with a determined desire to fulfill its important mission, the battalion quickly formulated its plan and launched the operation.

"The battalion maneuvered to a point one mile northwest of Belvedere, where a large and determined force of German infantry and field artillery, including self-propelled guns and tanks, was encountered. Initially one company of the 100th Infantry Battalion was committed toward the west to engage the enemy reserves and field artillery batteries. A second company passed through the leading company to continue the attack southward to cut the road leading to Sassetta, Italy. All three companies went into action, boldly facing murderous fire from all types of weapons and tanks and at times fighting without artillery support.

"Doggedly the members of the 100th Infantry Battalion fought their way into the strongly defended positions. The stubborn desire of the men to close with a numerically superior enemy, and the rapidity with which they fought enabled the 100th Infantry Battalion to destroy completely the right flank positions of a German army, killing at least 178 Germans, wounding approximately 20, capturing 73, and forcing the remainder of a completely disrupted battalion to surrender approximately ten kilometers of ground. In addition, large quantities of enemy weapons, vehicles and equipment were either captured or destroyed, while the American infantry division operating in the sector was able to continue its rapid advance.

"The fortitude and intrepidity displayed by the officers and men of the 100th Infantry Battalion reflect the finest traditions of the Army of the United States."

END

DISTRIBUTION: N, Y, Citations.  
3:00 P.M.



WAR DEPARTMENT  
PRESS BRANCHFOR LOCAL NEWS  
DEVELOPMENT BY WRAFUTURE RELEASE

MONDAY P.M. AUGUST 14, 1944

## JAPANESE AMERICAN CAPTURES THREE GERMANS FIRST DAY IN FRONT LINES

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY -- Concealing a wound until his mission was completed, Sergeant Kay Ihara, a switchboard operator with the Japanese-American 442nd Combat Team, captured three Germans the first day he went into the front lines.

Carrying a portable radio set, Sergeant Ihara, whose home is at 1704 West 38th Avenue, Denver, Colorado, went out to assist a forward artillery observer. He was wounded slightly by shell fragments, but concealed his condition and refused to leave his post.

As the attack moved forward, he observed a German before a cave in a mountainside. Armed only with a carbine, he surprised and captured the Nazi then backed him into the cave and captured two others.

Only when he returned from the field with his three prisoners did he submit to medical attention.

"It was tough and exciting," said Sergeant Ihara, "but I'd rather be up there with the fellows than back in the command post."

## FOUR JAPANESE AMERICANS FROM HAWAII SILENCE GERMAN SNIPERS: RESCUE 3 BUDDIES

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY--Attacking a German-held house near Belvedere, four company runners of the Japanese-American 100th Infantry Battalion killed one German and wounded another, captured three prisoners, and rescued three American soldiers who had been held captive.

Privates First Class Seitoku Hanashiro, Kohala, Hawaii; Seichi Maeda, Wainaku Mill Camp, Hilo, Hawaii; Tetsuo Tateishi, Aiea, Oahu, and Masaru Kadomoto, Honolulu, Hawaii, had passed an isolated house and were fired on by snipers. Noticing that the shots were coming from two windows and a doorway, they opened fire and forced the Germans to withdraw. Maeda then advanced under cover of his comrades and tossed a grenade in the doorway. It brought from the house the shout: "Hey, don't fire--we're Americans!"

"If you are Americans come out with your hands in the air," Tateishi ordered. Three American soldiers came out. Four German snipers were in the house, they said.

Tateishi advanced toward the doorway and demanded that the Germans surrender. It took shots from his rifle, however, to bring three of them in the open with upraised hands. A search of the house revealed that one German had been killed and another seriously wounded.



FUTURE RELEASE

WAR DEPARTMENT  
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FOR LOCAL NEWS  
DEVELOPMENT BY WRA

FUTURE RELEASE

TUESDAY P.M. August 15, 1944

HAWAIIAN DOUGHBOY GETS 7 GERMANS, 3 MACHINEGUN NESTS IN ITALY

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY -- In a day's fighting, Private First Class Robert W. Yasutake, Lahaina, Maui, Hawaiian infantryman recently silenced three enemy machineguns, killed four Germans and wounded and captured seven others.

Yasutake fights with the Japanese-American 100th Infantry Battalion on the Fifth Army front in Italy. His unit then was attached to the 34th "Red Bull" Division.

The action occurred while Yasutake's company successfully completed the mission of cutting a winding road through a grape field which the Germans had been using as a supply route.

Yasutake was instructed by his squad leader, Staff Sergeant Nobuo Tokunaga, also of Lahaina, to cover the right flank of his platoon with Browning automatic rifle fire as one unit advanced toward the objective.

Machineguns, machine pistols and snipers were turned on the islanders as they attacked -- one platoon for five minutes -- but Yasutake continued crawling until he reached a point from which he could engage the enemy machinegun. The Krauts subjected him to heavy machinegun fire and hidden riflemen sniped at him.

He reached a favorable position behind a mound and blasted at the machinegun, 600 yards away. After a bitter exchange of fire lasting 10 minutes, he neutralized the enemy gun, and his platoon was able to move forward again.

He then heard fire of another machinegun from a gully bordering the grape field. Yasutake crept to the gully's edge and found himself directly above the Kraut machinegun. While Germans to his left fired on him, he fired on the machinegun in the gully and threw hand grenades. The grenade wounded seven Germans who crawled up to him to surrender. They were taken prisoners.

Later when the platoon was held down again by machinegun fire from a dugout, Yasutake crawled into an adjacent dugout, where there was an abandoned German machinegun, and turned the weapon on the crew in the next dugout.

The Krauts threw four grenades at Yasutake, but he held stubbornly to his ground and returned fire.

Presently he saw a German crawl out to encircle him. Yasutake fired a burst of three bullets at the German and killed him. Three more Germans crawled toward the Hawaiian, attempting to encircle him by following a shallow ditch which afforded them protection. The Hawaiian waited until the trio was 20 feet from him then fired a burst of 15 bullets and killed the three Germans. The platoon was able to resume its advance.

After fighting all day and far into the night, Yasutake's company captured the objective.

OM-1342



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington, D. C.

JAPANESE-AMERICANS SPEARHEAD FIFTH ARMY'S OFFENSIVE

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY---During their 29 consecutive days in combat, Japanese American troops of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team have been in the forefront of the Fifth Army's offensive from Grosseto to Pisa and have themselves liberated 10 Italian towns.

The Japanese Americans met stiff resistance from German SS troops who were ordered by Hitler to hold and delay at all costs. Hammering the enemy steadily, the 442nd killed approximately 850 Germans, captured 363, and wounded unestimated numbers more.

The 442nd RCT also captured considerable quantities of German artillery pieces, tanks, pillboxes and transport.

The Japanese Americans received their baptism of fire near Grosseto on June 26, 1944. They jumped off early in the morning and by nightfall had captured 48 Germans, killed 50, and had advanced through the Nazi strongholds of Suvereto and Belvedere. Continuing their surge, they made a successful frontal attack on Sasseta and ousted the Germans from their third city in two days.

Next German-held town to fall in their path was Al Grillo. The Japanese Americans forded the waist-deep Cecina River amidst a screen of German crossfire and fought German machine gunners on the northern banks. They leveled down German defenses and advanced 10 kilometers across the Cecina valley to inland mountains.

After crossing a series of German minefields, the Japanese Americans occupied the mountain-peak village of Molina. Roads were impassable and mule pack trains supplied them with food and ammunition. They crawled down a mountain and up another toward heavily defended Pastina, which they occupied after facing machine pistols and exploding artillery shells.

An encircling end run was made, and the towns of San Luce and Orsiano successfully fell into their hands.

Encountering their old rivals, German SS troops, at Luciano, the Japanese Americans fought hand-to-hand in the city streets for a night and a day. It was here, at "Little Cassino", that the 442nd infantrymen experienced their roughest fights. Luciano was eventually captured with hand grenades, fist fights, and fixed bayonets.

As the German SS troops were forced back again, the town of Torretta fell to the 442nd.

While other Fifth Army units fought on the outskirts of Leghorn, the Japanese Americans held the right flank. They assisted in Leghorn's liberation by shoving the right flank toward Pisa, thereby silencing many German big guns.

Moving into position above Leghorn, Italy's third largest seaport, the 442nd sent out patrols to probe the German defenses at Pisa south of the Arno River. One patrol of 14 Japanese Americans penetrated six miles into German lines and reached the Arno River. Undetected, they picked their return path near German positions and troop concentrations. The 14 men reported invaluable information as to German movements, gun positions, and troop locations.



There have been countless instances of individual courage and valor during the regiment's 29 days of combat against the Germans.

When two officers became seriously wounded, a sergeant took command of two platoons. He led an attack on German machinegun positions, and crawled ahead to reconnoiter enemy positions. He returned to lead his men in a successful attack on three machinegun nests. While making his next reconnaissance, he was shot and killed by a German sniper.

Private First Class Bob Ichikawa, whose family is in the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Wyoming, saw his squad being ambushed by Germans. He charged ahead with his automatic rifle, firing until his gun jammed. Then crawling to within a few feet of the Germans, he threw hand grenades and killed nine enemy soldiers. Although spotted by the enemy and machine-gunned, he escaped injury.

Another soldier killed 4 Germans and charged two machine-gun nests. He silenced both with his M-1 rifle, and later captured three German SS troopers with his bare hands. He is Private First Class Frank Wada, whose wife and child live at the Poston Relocation Center, Arizona.

The medics of the 442nd take excellent care of the wounded. During the "Little Cassino" battle at Luciano, Private Yoichi Furuno of Honolulu, Hawaii, was surrounded by many wounded in his company. He boldly exposed himself to Germans with machine pistols. As a result, the wounded of his company were safely evacuated in record time. He returned through shellfire to assist the wounded of another company, although exposing himself to nearby Germans.

A squad leader was hit by a German mortar shell. His arm and leg was torn away. He remained conscious long enough to direct his squad to safety. His men evacuated him and his life was saved. A few minutes before he was wounded, this squad leader killed a German and wiped out a machinegun position.

The 442nd Combat Team is composed almost entirely of Americans of Japanese descent who volunteered for combat duty. Many of them joined the service while living in relocation centers where they were placed, under Government supervision, after they were evacuated from their homes on the West Coast in the spring of 1942, and many have families still living in the centers.

These Japanese Americans have a high esprit de corps and assert they have four principal reasons for fighting, as follows: (1) To help the United States win the war; (2) To assure the future of all loyal Japanese Americans as American citizens; (3) To justify the faith and confidence of those other Americans who have always believed in them as United States citizens; and (4) To prove to the various races of the world that World War II isn't a racial war but a war for freedom.

The 442nd was activated on February 1, 1943, left for overseas on May 1, 1944, and landed in Italy early in June.

Colonel Charles W. Pence, 307 Monroe Street, Attica, Indiana, is commander of the 442nd.

PASSED FOR PUBLICATION BY FIELD PRESS CENSOR



7-11 12-11  
August 29, 1944  
RELEASE

IMMEDIATE

GOOD CONDITIONS OF WOUNDED CITED BY ARMY SURGEON

To doctors who have seen service in both this war and the World War one, the most remarkable advances in the care of the wounded have been "the relative absence of serious contamination of wounds," according to Colonel Elliott C. Cutler, Medical Corps, Chief Consultant in Surgery in the European Theater of Operations.

Colonel Cutler's comment was made during a recent visit to this country when he made arrangements through the Office of the Surgeon General for the daily air shipment of whole blood from the United States to hospitals abroad. He since has returned to his post.

Colonel Cutler, whose home is in Brookline, Massachusetts, and who is on leave as Professor of Surgery at Harvard University, saw much service in the last war and won the Distinguished Service Medal.

"It is almost a miracle to some of us who served in the last war to see the relative absence of serious contamination of wounds in this war," he said. "This is due in part to the use of sulfa drugs and penicillin, but is largely due to the excellent physical condition of our men and to excellent surgery promptly performed.

"One of the differences in this war and the last is that the surgeon has been pushed far forward. We are taking the surgeon to the soldier as against bringing the soldier to the surgeon. This forward work is done largely in mobile field hospitals to which we attach expert surgical teams. A man can reach one of these teams in two to three hours after he has been hurt. Excellent first aid care is given previously by the enlisted men of the Medical Department."

Colonel Cutler said he had talked to many wounded men who had told him that medical soldiers reached them almost immediately after they had been hit.

Colonel Cutler has been overseas since the summer of 1942. In July, 1943, he was with the Soviet Army before Moscow and also served with the Fifth Army in North Africa and Italy.

OM-1460







WAR DEPARTMENT  
Bureau of Public Relations  
PRESS BRANCH  
Tel. - RE 6700  
Brs. 3425 and 4860

September 12, 1944

I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E *H 19*

JAPANESE-AMERICANS TO BE EMPLOYED  
AT TWO ARMY ORDNANCE DEPOTS

Americans of Japanese ancestry will help to produce munitions at military ordnance depots, with their first employment to take place in the Army Ordnance Department's Tooele, Utah, and Sioux, Nebraska, Depots, the War Department announced today.

Only those of unquestioned background and loyalty will be chosen for employment by the representatives of the civilian personnel section of the Office of the Chief of Ordnance, Army Service Forces, who are now at several war relocation centers selecting qualified male workers from among those evacuees not eligible for military service. Entry of many men into the Army as volunteers and inductees has reduced the pool of available male evacuee labor.

The plan to use Japanese-Americans to meet part of the urgent need for male workers in the depots has the cooperation and approval of the War Relocation Authority, the Office of the Provost Marshal General, the Civilian Personnel Branch, Industrial Personnel Division, A.S.F., and the Civil Service Commission.

If the employment of evacuees proves successful at Tooele and Sioux it is expected that more of them will be recruited for similar work at other military depots. Selection of the first two installations was based on an extensive field survey of Ordnance depots, including a study of the jobs most suitable to evacuee skills and an analysis of the communities involved.

Local merchants, civic officials, church leaders and labor unions in the Tooele and Sioux communities have signified their willingness to accept Japanese-American workers and their families into their communities. Adequate housing facilities are available in both localities.

END

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10:20 A.M.





## FIFTH ARMY NEWS

(EDITOR: If a newspaper clipping is sent to Headquarters Fifth Army, Public Relations Section, A.P.O. 464, we will dispatch it to the unit of the soldier concerned.)

THIS STORY HAS LOCAL INTEREST

### SEATTLE SERGEANT DECORATED FOR HEROISM IN ITALY

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY -- Staff Sergeant Minoru Masuda of Seattle, Washington, recently was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action during the Italian campaign.

He served on the Fifth Army front as a medical technician with the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team and was decorated by Colonel V. R. Miller, regimental commander, at a ceremony in Lecco.

Masuda was cited for going to the aid of wounded men during a German attack on the 2nd Battalion post. He crawled 25 yards in the face of enemy fire <sup>and</sup> dragged the casualties to cover.

A graduate of the University of Washington School of Pharmacology, Masuda entered the service from the Minidoka War Relocation Center, Hunt, Idaho, and came overseas in May, 1944. In addition to the Bronze Star, he wears the European Theater Ribbon with four battle stars, the Medical Badge and Good Conduct Medal.

His wife, Mrs. Hana Masuda, teaches translation and Japanese conversation at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

442-7

( end )

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THE WORLD AT WAR (an information service to WRA relocation center newspapers provided by the Office of War Information)

August 13, 1942

The Allied Offensive in the Pacific

The most important fact about the operations in the Solomon Islands is that United States forces are engaged in an offensive operation. The battles of Midway and Coral Sea, as the navy admitted at the time, were defensive victories. In the Solomons American forces are having their first try at one of the most difficult of military operations--the landing of sea-borne troops and the setting up and maintaining of bases for further operations. Any such operation involves heavy risks, and the certainty of considerable losses.

But the value of the attack on Tulagi does not lie entirely in the fact that it marks the beginning of an offensive in the Pacific area. In addition to opening the way for further action against Japanese bases in the New Guinea area, it offers needed protection for the United States supply line to Australia. Ever since the Japanese landed troops on New Guinea and New Britain last January, they have moved gradually south and east, creeping ever closer to Port Moresby and to the Australia-United States shipping lanes. Bases were established at Lae, Salamaua and other points on New Guinea, and at Rabaul on New Britain. These and other bases were attacked by American planes as part of the offensive operation.

The American drive to establish centers on Guadalcanal Island was based on evidence that the enemy was constructing air fields there. Only a few of the Solomon Islands are suitable for air bases, and this was an important point in choosing the place of attack.

After the Coral Sea battle the Japanese announced that the American fleet was now incapable of offensive action. After the Midway battle we were told that our fleet was annihilated, and after the landings on the Aleutians the Japanese boasted that we could not even protect our Pacific Coast. Now we are being told all over again that nothing remains of the American navy.

But it still seems to be going places and doing things.



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Japan's Forgotten Victim

The return to the United States of Americans who had been interned in Japan and the occupied countries of the Far East will naturally produce a number of stories on the mistreatment of prisoners and native populations throughout Asia. It is inevitable that these stories should be told. But there is another story of mistreatment and atrocity that is receiving comparatively little attention--the despotic and terroristic control over the Japanese people themselves by the military masters who exploit them.

The dreary history of the debasement of the masses by the feudal government--the murder of peasants by the samurai for mere sport, the oppressive taxes to support an idle and unproductive class--is familiar to anyone who knows Japanese history. Yet, the deliberate plans of the present military rulers have resulted in an oppression quite as thoroughgoing as that of the feudal lords.

The strength of the Japanese people to endure privation and hardship is an impressive element in their national life. The militarists have taken advantage of this endurance by laying ever heavier burdens upon them during the past eleven years of almost unceasing warfare. Part of their strategy indeed has been to demand this endurance in the name of patriotism and of economic necessity.

Anyone who studies Japan's recent history, however, discovers that the diversion of funds to armaments is primarily responsible for the low standards of living in Japan in recent years. As an industrial nation Japan competed successfully with the United States and Great Britain in world markets. She had become the largest exporter of textiles in the world, and was actually selling beer to the Germans and American flags to the American Legion. The raw materials she needed for peaceful commerce she could well afford to buy in the world market, process, and sell in the form of industrial products at a price no competitor could meet. She had, in the early 'thirties, proved that a nation did not need to own the raw materials in order to operate a profitable international trade.

The very success of her commercial operations appeared as a threat to the army clique which wanted to control the nation. Hence the provocation of war with China over the protests of Japan's best statesmen. Hence the constantly decreasing standard of living in Japan--not because of any alleged hostility on the part of other nations, but because all her wealth was going for unproductive armaments.

Victimized by militarists who have murdered Japan's best diplomats, the Japanese people are paying for their submission to that rule in many ways--in the loss of economic markets laboriously built up, in the death of millions of their young men, in a depressed standard of living which already has raised the cases of tuberculosis to 1,500,000 and the deaths from this disease in one year to 150,000. Police surveillance (which accounted for 60,000 arrests for "dangerous thoughts" and many deaths from torture during the years 1928-1936) grows ever more strict as the militarists fear the results their policy has brought to the people.

No one will minimize the suffering which militaristic Japan has caused the world. But no one should forget the misery which the militarists have caused their own people, or the price they will one day be forced to pay when the extent of that treachery is realized.